

Danner, Ward

From: Wilson, Patrick
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 1:13 PM
To: Lambert, Lisa
Subject: RE: Malibu HS

Tracking:	Recipient	Read
	Lambert, Lisa	
	Armann, Steve	Read: 1/9/2014 1:24 PM
	Mogharabi, Nahal	Read: 1/9/2014 1:14 PM
	Huetteman, Tom	

Good Afternoon Lisa,

Thank you very much for taking the time & making the effort to send your message – I very much appreciate it.

The sincerity & concerns in your message are crystal-clear to me and make perfect sense from an individual burdened with dealing with such a life-altering condition. I am personally very sorry that you have been confronted with a malignancy of the thyroid – and I have little doubt that anyone in your position would not have the same suspicions, concerns & doubts.

I totally get it.

I believe that you have all of my contact information – so if you would, at any time, wish to discuss any aspects of the science or rationale supporting EPA's approach & thinking behind these type of PCB exposures, please do not hesitate to let me know.

One of the priorities that we have committed to the district is to try & convert some of these more obscure airborne PCB concentrations into units of measurements which may be more meaningful for those outside of my discipline.

You recall that we have been speaking of airborne PCB measurements in units of ug PCB/m3 of air (micrograms of PCB per cubic meter of air). The units of measurement that we have been using for impacted building materials (caulk) has been in parts per million (ppm) – a unit of measurement that is generally much more comprehensible to the public.

We converted the airborne concentration reported for your room into the same units of measurement. You may recall – the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) - regulates building materials when the PCB concentration is equal to or above 50 ppm. Specific caulk samples from previous measurements at the school were found in excess of 1800 ppm.

The airborne PCB concentration found in your room from the most recent sampling effort – using the same units of measurement – are roughly 0.0000075 ppm or 7.5×10^{-6} ppm. This concentration is the same as 0.0075 parts per billion (ppb) or 7.5 parts per trillion (ppt). These concentration conversions are roughly equivalent to the 0.1 ug/m3 PCB concentration (rounded up) found in your room.

Thanks again Lisa for taking the time to digest so much of this. Again, I wish you only the best with respect to your health.

Best Regards...

..patrick

From: Lambert, Lisa [mailto:llambert@smmusd.org]

Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2014 11:23 AM

To: Wilson, Patrick

Subject: RE: Malibu HS

Hello Patrick,

Sorry for not getting back to you until now. I have been processing a lot of information this past week and hearing all the same things you are hearing.

Just to give you a little background. I was the first teacher on campus to be diagnosed with Cancer. Next week will be my one year anniversary from my thyroidectomy. After my diagnosis, I watched as two of my other friends were diagnosed with the same cancer. Some of our youngest students had all three of us last year as we all had surgery to remove the cancer. Even at that point I still was not convinced that any of this could be linked to anything on campus.

Now I sit here with the test results that I had to fight to get done. Within these results it shows that the three teachers with Thyroid cancer have 3 of the 4 highest rooms with PCB's. Everyone keeps saying what you guys are confirming to them, that we are "safe" that the levels fall below your acceptable risk levels. I challenge you to look at the whole picture and say, maybe we don't know anymore. Based on these results, we need to investigate further.

My phone call from Sandy Lyon was very misleading. She called me Sunday night to inform me that my room was the highest during this round of testing. I asked if it was higher than room 1, and she stated "no, nothing in the second round of testing was higher than the first round." She assured me that the EPA was fine with everything. Are you fine with knowing that three teachers with Cancer have the highest rooms? Can you please answer that question for me. Research is evolving and I think that everyone involved needs to do the right thing and test with integrity and answer the question of why do the 3 teachers have the highest rates instead of hiding behind the statement that they fall below the acceptable level. Maybe the acceptable level is wrong.

Thank You,

Lisa Lambert

From: Wilson, Patrick [Wilson.Patrick@epa.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, January 08, 2014 7:07 PM

To: Lambert, Lisa

Subject: Malibu HS

Good Evening Ms. Lambert (Lisa),

I want to apologize to you.

I am still at my office in San Francisco and have been returning calls from interested parents & teachers for the majority of this afternoon. It was my intent for you to be my last call of the day – but I have not been able to locate your phone number here at my office.

Would you mind providing me with an appropriate phone number for me to reach you? I'd be happy to speak with you this evening if you would like – or I can wait to speak with you tomorrow at your convenience? Please make it easy on yourself.

If you would like to reach me this evening – please feel free to reach me via cell at 510.781.0577. I am about to leave my office for a 0.5 hr bus-ride home. I can be reached at my home phone number after 8 pm if you would prefer (510) 336.1964.

Again, I apologize for the hour of this message & for being late in speaking with you.

Best Regards...

..patrick



United States Environmental Protection Agency

Patrick Wilson, Ph.D., M.P.H. | Senior Regional Toxicologist | Regional Incident Coordination Team

415.972.3354 | wilson.patrick@epa.gov

US EPA Region IX | 75 Hawthorne St. (WST-5) San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

<http://www.epa.gov/region9/>
